

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORTS-E-C-R-E-T
NOFORN/CONTINUED CONTROL

50X1-HUM

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the Soviet Arctic ports of Arkhangelsk and Kem

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Economic

Port information, Archangel

1. QUAY

[redacted] 50X1-HUM
 [redacted] At least 1,000 feet in length, it consists of two parts of almost equal length. The lower part of the quay is the better, and also has the greater depth of water. There is a double row of piles, spaced at 1 foot intervals about one foot from the edge of the quay. These piles are visible only at low water.

2. DEPTH

15 ft. was sounded at low water at the upper end of the quay. The ship drew 19 ft. at the lower end but touched bottom at low water.

3. INDUSTRIAL

(a) Just below the quay at sawmill No.3, there is a large rectangular site with wooden fencing on three sides. On the river side it lies open and has a small wharf, believed to be a floating one. This site was filled with old steel hawsers, chains and other scrap metal. The scrap was 50X1-HUM delivered to the site by lighters. [redacted] There is possibly a small workshop there, [redacted]

(b) There is a very large timber yard between this scrapyard and the town; the largest [redacted] in ARCHANGEL. 50X1-HUM

(c) At sawmills No.5/7, [redacted] over 80 stacks of planking in one direction in the timber yard. There were at least as many stacks in the other direction. 50X1-HUM

4. SHIPPING

(a) A combined passenger and cargo ship lay at anchor between No.3 and the town. 5000 to 6000 tons d.w. Characteristic of bows: vertical down to the maximum loading line, then sloping sharply diagonally in, without any bend. The vessel had a very short name.

(b) . . .

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(b) In mid-November ice caused considerable difficulties [redacted]

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[redacted] On 14th November the ice drove three Russian ships aground on the south spit of BRYEVYENIK Island. One of them was a grey-painted freighter.

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(c) The ice-breaker "LENIN" arrived at ARCHANGEL on 14th November.

5. BUNKERING

(a) The ship ran short of oil bunkers at ARCHANGEL. The Russian authorities said they would have to apply to MOSCOW for authority to sell oil. The ship could get bunkers from a [redacted] ship, but both ships were without hoses. The Russians tried to borrow hoses from Russian ships, but none would lend them.

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[redacted] Masses of forms had to be filled in for buying them, but the hoses were never delivered. The Russian authorities in ARCHANGEL were being helpful but they clearly lacked authority to get anything done.

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(b) The ship had to sail without bunkers. She had to be taken in tow by a [redacted] ship from the lightship to SVIATOI NOS. The tow broke and she then had to use the deck cargo as fuel.

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6. PERSONNEL

(a) The Head of INFLOT wears a blue uniform with three gold rings on his sleeve.

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(d) The manager of the Seamen's Club [redacted]

[redacted] Speaks fluent English.

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C.

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1.

(a)

To the north there was about 250 ft.

free berthing, which was used by small cutters, loading cordage, fishing netc., etc., and which also carried some deck passengers.

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(b) The shipping agent called the north part of the quay the

Master's Quay", and said the Master was in charge of the dock

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on this quay. The agent himself had no influence there, but he provided a number of extra hands from the sawmill.

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(c) The master's quay is separated from the sawmill's quay

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by a fence. There is a gate in this fence but did not

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close There was no guard on the gate.

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2.

DEPTHS

(a) The ship drew 17'2" when loaded and a sounding made at low water gave 18', a little way out from the quay.

(b) At the north end of this quay a Russian freighter of approximately 2000 tons was moored stern to. She loaded lumber from the water.

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(c)

the greatest depth of water was

at the sawmill's quay, but ships berthed there were kept some 10' from the edge of the quay by means of floats.

3.

SAWMILLS

The sawmill consists of two large buildings, that lying nearer the quay has a part roof with open sides. There is a wooden bridge, carrying 6 or 7 transporter belts, connecting the two buildings.

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4. BUILT-UP AREA

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There is a wooden administration building under construction just outside the sawmill's area. There is a cinema on the north side of the road

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A house with a cafe is on the south side of the road on the first side road running south. There is also a barber's shop and waiting room in this building.

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5. WATER SUPPLY

(a) Occasionally there were some closed railway wagons on the tracks on the north quay. These wagons had small chimneys which smoked. Pipes were laid out from these wagons, which carried water to a wooden conduit leading to a place on the south side of the fence between the two quays.

(b) There is a hut just outside the sawmills. The hut has a guard-room with two windows, and outside it are three two-inch hydrants. Those who came to fetch water (women only) spoke to the woman guard and gave her a token or something similar, before placing their buckets under the hydrants.

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ECONOMIC

PORT INFORMATION, ARCHANGEL AREA.

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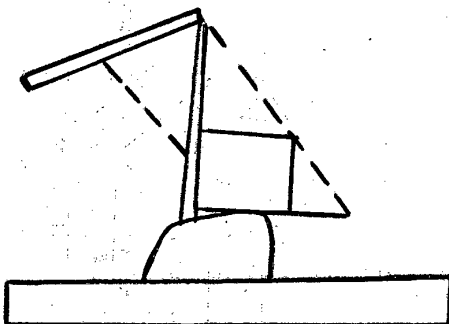
1. Three floating cranes were seen [redacted] All were under tow. 50X1-HUM
One was large with a tripod crane. A second had a swivelling and
raisable arm. [redacted]
[redacted] (see sketch attached). 50X1-HUM
No description of the third crane is available.
2. At PORT EKONOMIA, there are three cranes which appear to run on rails.
The estimated lift is 5 tons each.
3. (a) There are five cranes at ARCHANGEL Pier Station with moveable arms.
(b) A large floating crane was seen lying alongside the pier one evening.
4. There are two floating docks near the repair shops at SOLOMBALA.

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"CRANE NO. 1"

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ECONOMICPORT INFORMATION, KEM.1. APPROACHES.

A.

- (a) The vessel used the Northern approaches to the ROMBAK Islands.
- (b) There are a few houses near the lighthouse on YUZHNY ROMBAK Island.
- (c) On MALY ROMBAK and PYAL-LUDY Islands there is nothing but the lighthouses.
- (d) On the small islands between PYAL-LUDY and YAKOSTROV Islands there is no habitation.
- (e) YAKOSTROV Island is covered with trees and there is no visible habitation.
- (g) A vessel in ballast can enter on the lights in line south of the railway piers on RABOCHEOSTROVSK Island.
- (h) A loaded ship must use the Northern lights in line.

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2. HARBOUR AREA.

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- (a) The railway bridge to the mainland appears to be of wooden construction.
- (b) There are sidings of two or three tracks on either side of the bridge.
- (c) When marshalling at these sidings was in progress, a woman stood on either side of the bridge giving signals.
- (e) It is possible to drive a car [] behind the sawmill area [] but there is no proper road. The ground is covered with sawdust.
- (f) The large buildings []
- (g) The most westerly of the buildings [] appears to be a repair garage. Outside was a breakdown car and several tractors and cars.
- (h) The small black square [] opposite the repair garage is a shop.
- (i) The sawmill offices []
A little north of these offices a new office building [] is being erected. The walls are made of 7" x 7" square-cut logs. Work was being carried out on the rafters.
- (j) In the shed behind the sawmill [] there is a telegraph office.
- (k) Near the telegraph office there are some sheds which looked like workshops. There was a lot of scrap iron lying near these sheds.
- (l) On the north side of the road going past 10 [] there is a large building which is a cinema. Along the road there are eight or nine apparently new [] dwelling houses.
- (m) On the peninsula [] there are eight to ten apparently new detached houses.
- (n) [] they built 10 - 15 new houses every year in the [] area and that they had planned to pull down all the old buildings among some old sheds []
- (o) []
Water had to be brought by rail from the mainland at the cost of several million roubles per annum. Tank wagons were seen on the sidings being drained into wooden troughs.
- (p) Just north of the Sawmill [] is a pump where the townsfolk come and get water in containers carried on handcarts.
- (q) In the bay [] were a large number of logs and the area with diagonal stripes north of this bay is a storing area for logs.
- (r) Two small tugs towed the logs and were usually moored in the bay []
- (s) The cargo was well stowed and the ship loaded 50 standards more than at ARCHANGEL due to good stowing.
- (t) All Russians except the police accepted cigarettes and drink.
- (u) []

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PORT INFORMATION ARCHANGEL AREA

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1. It was stated ashore that the maximum draught for a vessel alongside sawmill No. 5/7 (64° 32' 48" N., 40° 20' 54" E.) was 20 feet. The reason for this was that the vessel had to cross a shallow patch about 200 metres [redacted]

2. [redacted]

3. There is a boatbuilding yard about 150 metres South of the gates to sawmill 16/17 where small dories are built. The work is carried out in a long single-storied wooden building lying East and West. The Northern wall of the building consisted of eight double doors. A boat was under construction against each door with the stern pointing outwards. Ten completed dories lay on a slope outside the building, some of them were filled with water to allow the seams to take up. None of them had engines installed and as far as could be seen no engine workshop existed in the area. This yard has no direct access to the sea, as a road, a fence and a number of houses lie in between. The yard was visited at about 1600 hours and 25 young girls were at work in the boats under a foreman (male). To the southward of this yard are rows of new dwelling houses.

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4. (a)

[redacted] The tram from the pontoon bridge terminus to sawmill 16/17 always consists of two short, red-painted carriages. The journey takes about 15 minutes, costs 30 kopecks and is always crowded.

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Some naval ratings went on past the factory. The conductress accepted 30 kopecks as the fare. When this tram had come some way up into SOTOM BALA from the pontoon bridge, it turned off to the right. As soon as they were clear of the buildings,

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[redacted] The terrain through which the tram passed was boggy. The tram ran along single track and did not stop until it reached the factory, apart from one place, where it waited for some time at a passing place until a tram passed from the opposite direction.

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- (b) The factory consisted of several large buildings with a number of steam outlet pipes on the roof. There were four tall iron chimneys with black smoke coming from all of them. There were large coal dumps by the factory and close to and between the buildings were large heaps of a rather light stone. The stones were more or less the same size, being one foot in diameter.

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(c)

[redacted] This road has a plank surface. Parallel to and South of this road there is a narrow gauge railway.

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[REDACTED] 50X1-HUM

5. The new bridge linking ARCHANGEL and SOLOMBALA is now connected, but traffic is not yet to be seen. Work is now going on on the bridge structure itself and two large cranes are in use.
6. There are several large car ferries in ARCHANGEL. As soon as one had completed loading a deck cargo of timber and sailed from 16/17 sawmill, another took its place. Description as follows:-

Length 200 feet
Beam 60 feet
Draught 12 feet
Speed about 11 knots

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[REDACTED]). Forward there is a heavy lifting gear with elevators on each side. There are a large number of pipes here giving the impression of being hydraulically operated. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The ferries are motor driven and have a small funnel.

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